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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Continuation of 3 and 7: Applicant has amended the claims to require a modulus of elasticity under compression between 20 and 80 MPa, while the previously drafted claims required a modulus between "about" 20 MPa and "about" 80 MPa. It is evident that the amended claims restrict the range of modulus views (as compared to the previously drafted claims) and as such, the amended claims would require further search and consideration. It is emphasized that the amended claims exclude rubber compositions having a modulus slightly below 20 MPa and such was not excluded in the previously drafted claims.

Continuation of 11: As noted above, the amended claim language would require further search and consideration as it limits the modulus range as defined in the previously drafted claims. Additionally, applicant's arguments are directed to the amended claim language and thus, said arguments are not commensurate in scope with the pending claim language.